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The Non-Subscribing Presbyterian

No. 406. AUGUST, 1940.

LIFE. **HONOUR** **FREEDOM.**

I. COR. XVI., 13—"Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong"

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Library of the
UNITARIAN
FOR THE MINISTRY
Berkeley, Calif.

THE REV. E. ROSALIND LEE,

Ed. Newnham Coll. Cambridge, 1902-6; M.A., (Cantab.); L.C., Pentre, 1917-19, Minister, 1919-20; Hibbert Scholar, 1920-21, Co-Pastor, Melbourne, 1921; Leicester, Narborough Road, 1923-29; London, Hackney, 1930-32; District Minister, S.E, Wales, 1932—President of General Assembly, London.

NOTES AND NEWS.

History has been intensely concentrated into these last few weeks. On the events themselves concerning which we must all feel keenly and deeply, and the details of which we know so well, we prefer to pass over in silence. One thing has been brought home very vividly and that is the part that the youth of the nation has had to assume, in the very forefront of the battle. Marvellous has been the achievement in the air, on the sea, and on the land. In the workshops and in the fields the same valour has been displayed. Our

prayers and will can only be that the hands and hearts of those who guide the affairs of the nation shall be strengthened with the confidence that though Britain and her Allies fight to the last ditch, the dark forces cannot conquer. Not a single event is happening outside the omnipresent consciousness of God, and therefore Victory for the Powers of Light and Life and Freedom is assured over the forces that would throw back the evolution of humanity for thousands of years.

* * *

We give an inspiring and illuminating passage elsewhere from the World Congress of Faiths, which we esteem worthy of the attention of our readers.

* * *

The Rt. Hon. Duff Cooper has communicated with clergymen and others of influence to point out the great danger existing at the present time of loose talk and of loose thinking about what might be the consequences of defeat. "There are ever people who are inclined to ask whether they would be much worse off under the rule of Hitler." "The Germans, no doubt, will do their best at first and during the Armistice to make conditions as pleasant as possible for the French people in order that they may be deluded into thinking they have not lost so much after all. The real peace terms when they come to be dictated, as they will be when all further resistance is impossible, will give such people a rude shock." "The liberties for which we have fought for centuries would be taken away, as a first step in his domination over Britain. Secret police would pervade public and private life. To make a joke about our masters would be exceedingly unsafe. Whole portions of the working population would probably be transferred to foreign countries, where they would be compelled to labour under the lash, separated from their wives and families, and treated as slaves. This has been the policy pursued in Poland. 120,000 working men have been transferred from Holland. All Christian associations and societies have been abolished in Germany and hundreds of the bravest preachers have been imprisoned for daring to criticise the Nazi regime."

* * *

"A German victory would mean for us starvation, mentally, spiritually and bodily." "The Government is giving the public as full instructions as possible as to what to do; at the same time people must be encouraged to think for themselves and to help themselves." This is only a brief summary of Duff Cooper's letter.

* * *

September, 1940, number published on Saturday, August 23rd. Copy sent in before 16th August will be received by Rev. John Barron, Ballywalter, Co. Down.

A WORD TO THE YOUNG PEOPLE'S LEAGUE.

[Fifth Annual Meeting of The World Congress of Faiths, at Bedford College, University of London, July 5th to 10th, 1940. Excerpts from Chairman's circular letter.]

We invite the Y.P.L. to kindly consider this. [ED.]

"In religion you cannot really be solitary. Above all, pray. Collect together every tiniest atom of yourself and then throw your whole complete soul out in one tremendous and sustained effort after the highest you know. And meditate—That is the advice I would give to those of independent spirit. . . .

"Especially must Youth everywhere be influenced. Hitler has set himself to build up, in his own words, 'a violently active, intrepid, brutal youth.' But that ideal does not appeal to us. We have quite another vision for the youth of the world—something just as manly, just as daring and courageous, but of an altogether finer fibre, cleaner, wholesomer, and of that tenderness and chivalry which comes of strength, despises bluster, and loathes brutality. To help bring about our own ideal, individual members of our movement might well get in touch with Youth organizations, such as Boy Scouts and Girl Guides, and possibly with organizations for the entertainment of the troops, and tell them of the importance we attach to religion as a means for arousing that spirit of fellowship, good comradeship and high patriotism which is our aim."

SUBSIDY FUND.

Contributions should be addressed to Rev. A. Davison, Dromore, by whom they will be gratefully acknowledged.

PULPIT SUPPLY.—The Rev. J, Shaw Brown, 1 Greenmount Avenue, Manse Road, Bangor.

THE KING'S REPLY TO OUR TELEGRAM OF SYMPATHY AND LOYALTY.

HOME OFFICE,
WHITEHALL,
24th June, 1940.

Sir,

I am directed by the Secretary of State to say that your message of the 19th June, on behalf of the Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Church of Ireland, has been laid before The King, who has commanded the Secretary of State to convey to the Church His Majesty's deep appreciation of the expression of loyalty and sympathy which it contains.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
A. J. EAGLESTON.

The Moderator,
Non-Subscribing Presbyterian
Church of Ireland,
Belfast.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor, "Non-Subscribing Presbyterian."

THE SYNOD LECTURE.

Dear Mr. Editor,

What a treat Mr. H. J. F. Orr gave us in his Synod lecture!

Perhaps one of the minor benefits of such delightful delving into the past is that hearers are encouraged to try to recall customs and incidents in their own early years which otherwise might be completely forgotten. May I mention two such instances? After the lecture I was reminded that it used to be the custom at the Holywood Sunday School to stand during prayer, turning our backs to the minister.

Then a friend told me, what she might herself have mentioned, that at funerals not only the minister but often the family doctor wore a scarf given by the relatives of the deceased. This lady said she well remembered that she and her sisters wore petticoats made of black sateen, the material frequently used for scarves. This was given to her mother by a kind neighbour, a member of a doctor's household.—Yours truly,

C. J. MCKISACK.

The Non-Subscribing Presbyterian can be obtained at the Depository, 35 Rosemary Street, Belfast.

OBITUARY.

Mr. John Jamieson and Mrs. Elizabeth Hamilton, Templepatrick.

We have to announce, with deep regret, the passing of two members at the end of June.

John Jamieson was an excellent example of the yeoman farmer, steady, industrious and painstaking. Stricken down in almost his prime religion helped to sustain a naturally courageous spirit for several months before the end.

Mrs. Elizabeth Hamilton was the widow of the late James Hamilton, whose bequest benefits certain ministers in the district. She had been a patient sufferer for many years. Her interest in the church never diminished despite her enforced absence from its services.

—:o:—

Mr. Herbert L. Chambers.

It is with deep regret we record the passing from our earthly fellowship of Mr. Herbert L. Chambers. Ballee loses one who throughout his life was in loyal association with the congregation. His name will be perpetuated in the history of the Meeting House for much valued service given on committees, but more especially for his care and oversight of Church property and fabric. His specialised knowledge as architect and builder were ever freely placed at the congregation's disposal, and whatever he undertook was done thoroughly. Since its inception Mr. Chambers had been secretary and treasurer of the Ballee Tennis Club, and it would be difficult to estimate what the club owes to his interest, foresight and initiative. The welfare of the club was always dear to his heart. The call came to him with tragic suddenness whilst on L.D.V. patrol at Ardglass on the morning of July 3rd, and the passing was swift. At the funeral to Ballee Meeting House graveyard members of the L.D.V. paraded and acted as bearers in relays. We offer our very sincere sympathy to his relatives in their bereavement.

CORRECTION—Josiah Welch, minister of Templepatrick, was the grandson of John Knox and not son-in-law, as stated in July number.

* * *

PULPIT SUPPLY.—The Rev. W. Eakin, 103 Greenore Street, Belfast.

REPORTS.

Mountpottinger—At the annual business meeting Mr. H. J. F. Orr presided. The Church Committee's Report was submitted by the Hon. Secretary, Mr. H. B. McCullough, whilst the Financial Statement was presented by Mr. E. R. Jackson, Hon. Treasurer. Both Reports were adopted after a short review by the Chairman, as were the Sunday School Accounts put forward by Mr. L. Watters. Rev. F. Munford B.A. gave an address on the year's work as it had appealed to him and, whilst regretting the disadvantages which War conditions had brought about, believed that the Congregation had done its best to surmount them. Mr. H. Thomas made an appeal to the members to support the Minister and Church officials by being very regular in their attendances, and if possible, by being present at both Services. The Church Committee was re-elected with the addition of Mr. H. J. F. Orr to fill the vacancy which had existed since the last Annual Meeting. Mr. H. B. McCullough and Mr. E. R. Jackson were re-elected to the positions of Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer. Mr. L. Watters was asked to continue as Hon. Treas. of the Sunday School, as was Mr. W. W. Wilson for the same position in the Choir. Miss. D. Russell was re-elected as Magazine Secretary. Mr. H. Thomas and Mr. L. Watters were appointed as Hon. Auditors. The Women's League Branch was thanked for their services during the year and also for providing the light refreshments served at the conclusion of the Meeting.

The Annual Floral Services were held on June 23rd, being conducted by the Rev C. J. Montgomery B.A., of Holywood, in the morning, and in the evening by Rev. F. Munford B.A. The floral decorations had been tastefully arranged by members of the Women's League, and to these ladies and those who contributed the flowers we return grateful thanks. It was Mr. Montgomery's first occasion for occupation of the pulpit and his ministrations were very acceptable. At both services the Sunday School scholars with the help of some young friends sang an anthem and a selected hymn. The results must have been pleasing to Mr. L. Watters who had trained them. The Evening Service was of a special character and we were favoured with solos by Miss Adelaide Beattie, a life-long member of the Church, and Mr. A. Dempster who was good enough to also sing in the morning. Miss J. Keith provided a Violin solo, whilst Miss Maureen Kirkpatrick gave a Sacred recitation. The lesson was read by Miss Ella Catherwood and the scholars repeated the items which they had given in the morning. The congregations at both services were of gratifying dimensions. On Saturday, June 29, the Sunday School annual excursion took place, the chosen spot being Helen's Bay. Fortunately the weather behaved, as two short showers were forgotten in the recollections of a good proportion of sunshine. Games and races on the sand passed the afternoon pleasantly and put both the seniors and juniors in good form for tea, after which the party separated to follow their own devices until the train was due. Much of the success of the outing was due to the hard work put in by Mr. L. Watters who, as on former occasions, proved a tower of strength.—E. R. J.

Templepatrick—Floral services were held on June 30th, the minister being the preacher and Miss McComiskey of Belfast the special soloist. For her readiness to help and the beauty of her singing Miss McComiskey has laid us under a deep sense of gratitude. On July 2nd the wedding took place of Mr. James Knox and Miss Eileen Harper. Miss Harper has been an active church worker from early youth, has endeared herself to all our people, and carries to her new home the best wishes of the Church.

Y.P.L. Excursion.—A very successful excursion of the Young People's League took place on Saturday, June 22nd, to Newry and Warrenpoint, on the kind invitation of our friends in South Down. Seventy-two members and friends of the League were present. Skies were clouded in the morning before leaving Belfast, but the afternoon was bright and sunny. We journeyed by train to Newry where we were received by Rev. McCleery and several Newry friends and taken to our church there. From Newry we shortly entrained for Warrenpoint, and there went to the old Meeting House—the first Presbyterian Church to be established in the district—where Rev. McCleery bade us welcome and conducted a short service. Tea followed at "Pleasure Step" and was much enjoyed. After tea we went down to the sea front and the party broke up, the remainder of the evening being spent variously in Warrenpoint and Rostrevor. At 9-15 p.m we boarded the train for Belfast We wish to reiterate the warm thanks expressed during the course of the evening to Rev. McCleery and our good friends in South Down, among whom we would mention especially our hostess at tea,

for their invitation and the very kindly manner in which they received us.—to them our excursion owes its success. We were to have Rev. Agnew and Rev. Wilde with us as members of the League, and may we appeal for further support for what can be a vigorous Church Society.—A. C.

Killinchy—The Sunday School anniversary services were held on June 16th, morning and evening. The church was decorated for the occasion with flowers by the teachers. The preacher was the Rev. A. M. Bell, B A., whose appropriate sermons were much appreciated and caught the attention of the children. It was the Children's Day, their singing of the Fourth Service and hymns from the Sunday School Hymn Book was very good and received much praise from the congregation. The collections were in aid of the Sunday School Fund, two of the boys acting as collectors, Marshall Magowan and Harry Finlay. The annual excursion of the Sunday School and Choir took place on Saturday, 6th July, to Newcastle.

Ballyclare—The annual children's service was held on Sunday, 16th June, at 3-30 p.m., the attendance on this occasion being much larger than usual. Special music, rendered by an augmented choir, was much appreciated by all present, the singing reflecting great credit on Mrs. Moore, A.L.C.M., who had given much time to the training of the choir, and who presided at the organ. The service was conducted by the Rev. W. Howard Payne (minister-elect) to whose address the children gave their whole attention. The theme of the service was Duty.

Moneyrea—The annual excursion of the Sunday School took place on Saturday, July 6th, when scholars and adults were conveyed to Bangor by buses, leaving the Old School, Moneyrea, at 11 a m , with the children in good form and voice, singing all the way until they entered Station Square. The weather was favourable, warm and sunny and all, young and old, thoroughly enjoyed the day on the front, in the park and going round the shops. An excellent tea was provided in Thompson's Cafe. Shortly after 8 o'clock the party, tired and happy, left Bangor for home. The arrangements were in the capable hands of Miss R. Kennedy, the Sunday-school secretary.

Raloo—A very pretty flower-service was held at Raloo on Sunday, July 14th. Under the supervision of Mrs. McCleery the children opened the service with a procession up the aisle, each scholar carrying a bunch of flowers which was laid on the communion table; a duet was sung by two of the scholars and that was followed by a Sunday-school hymn. The second lesson was read by one of the girls, the sermon was given by the Rev. J. Barron, and the collection taken up by four of the boys. Notwithstanding the heavy rain there was a good attendance, some having come a very long distance

First Church, Belfast – On June 29th the death occurred of the Rev. Douglas Walmsley, B.A., who from 1894 to 1906 was minister of the church. Mr. Walmsley passed away at the advanced age of 92, and had retained both his mental and physical faculties to a marked degree. He was a man of deep scholarship and of great charm of personality. He is still remembered with affection by those who knew him during his ministry in Belfast. We extend our sincere sympathy to his widow.

With the advent of the summer months our institutional activities have come almost to a standstill. The Women's League, however, continues to meet on alternate Tuesdays for the making of comforts for men in the Forces, while the Junior Women's League continues its weekly rambles on Wednesday evenings. The Committee of the Discussion Circle has met recently to discuss plans for the coming winter session. Sunday-school, as usual, is closed for July and August. A number of our members took part in, and greatly enjoyed, the outing to Newry and Warrenpoint, organized by the Young People's League on June 22nd.

It has been pleasurable again to entertain the Synod at its services and meetings. It was encouraging to note the good attendances, spite of war conditions. Notwithstanding present difficulties and the anxiety of the hour a spirit of quiet optimism regarding our Non-Subscribing Church prevailed.

Some of our people are away on short holidays. We send to them our cordial remembrances and our good wishes for a healthful and re-creative time. To our members in the various Forces also we send our affectionate remembrances. They are ever in our thought and our prayers.

Spiritual values have gained an added significance and meaning in these days of material darkness and uncertainty. No greater duty rests upon us than to nourish the roots of our personal spiritual life, and to maintain undiminished our fellowship in the faith.

Belfast, York Street—At the outbreak of war we faced a serious situation. With the exception of the Sustentation Fund and a few pounds from investments which do not pay for our electric light, we have no income beyond stipend and collections which have to amount to between £500 and £600 every year. A large section of our people come long distances, many by car, and very many are working on Sunday or require to rest, while we have to face all the other difficulties of this time. An urgent appeal was made to all who could attend or increase their contributions to do so. Once more the splendid loyalty of our Congregation was shown, but we hardly expected the result that the half-yearly estimate discloses. With at least half our people unable to be with us attendances have been maintained, while both stipend and collections show an increase over the same period last year, and are the largest in the history of the Church. There has also been a considerable increase in membership.

The Building and Endowment Fund has reached the fine sum of £900. Only a few of our members have now to make their returns, and we shall be glad indeed for any help our friends may be able to give us. The subscriptions from our denomination have been most generous, but few. Nine Congregations have responded, apart from what may have been given by individuals in them. It would mean more than the value of the money if every congregation in the Non-Subscribing Church would give us at least one collection. One Sunday's collection would not be missed by any of our churches, and it would give most of our people an opportunity to help in this one great effort that has been made in our time to secure what is practically an entirely new Church and congregation that has already been created in our denomination without any of that help that would have been given to it in any other, where thousands of pounds are gladly subscribed to build new churches where the need for them is less.

No congregation has had more excuse for keeping its energies to itself than we have. None the less we have tried to do our share for the denomination. We have closed our church time and again for others, though it means serious loss to us. We have entertained some hundreds of Non-Subscribers in our Hall. It is given gladly and willingly to all our organisations. We subscribe more than the usual amount to many Denominational Funds. Our people provide sometimes half the audience at meetings. We have provided large congregations for visiting Ministers from America and England. Many young people who would have been lost to the Non-Subscribing Church have been saved for it. We have provided lay preachers for almost every church in our body. We have kept the flag flying by our services in the Ulster Hall and in many other ways. We have surely deserved the little help we ask for now, and even if we have not deserved it, could any denomination afford to allow a Church doing these things to be lost, much less a denomination with only four churches in the city of Belfast?

Our people are not poor and they are generous, and time and again ask why our Faith does not grow like others. The simple answer is, because they will not respond to appeals such as this. Here, what is now a splendid Non-Subscribing Church, the situation of which would guarantee it a good congregation under any Minister, may be lost for want of an endowment the amount of which has been subscribed for an orthodox Church in our neighbourhood by a few people in a week, and that before it was built. To those Ministers and others who fail to see the need for this appeal we commend the consideration of how long their own Church could continue dependant on stipend and collections alone, even without the heavy expenses of a City Church. We have had to continue and do it while building our Church as well. We have done what we have done and can do no more, and the future of our Church and all that it means to our Denomination, and all that has been spent upon it, depends on whether Non-Subscribers will give this once a fraction of what members of other denominations give, and give gladly, to such work.

We gratefully acknowledge these contributions sent direct since our last list was published: Miss Moore, Templepatrick, £1; Mr. R. Clarke, Belfast, £1; Rev. J. Dare Davies, £1; Mr. J. Shannon, sen., Holywood, £2; Mrs. E. Thompson, Cairncastle, £1; Newry Congregation, £6; Ballyclare Congregation, £5 15s.; Mr. J. Kelly, Downpatrick, £2; Newtownards Congregation, £1 1s.; Killinchy W.L. (second contribution), £3; Rev. R. W. Wilde, M.A., and Mrs. Wilde, £5.

The Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Church, as such, is not responsible for any opinion or declaration in this Journal, by whomsoever expressed, unless contained in an official document.

ORDINATION AT CLOUGH.

The Ordination of the Rev. W. Holden took place at the N.S.P. Church, Clough, on July 11th.

The service began with praise and prayer, conducted by the Moderator of the Antrim Presbytery, the Rev. W. H. Townley Tilson, M.A. The Sermon was preached by the Rev. R. W. Wilde, M.A. BSc., of Belfast, who took as his text, Ephesians v., 25, 'Christ loved the Church, and gave himself for it.' He spoke of the Apostle's high idea of the Church and of churchmanship, asserting that the New Testament knew nothing of such a thing as an 'individual' Christian, all being members of the mystical body of Christ, and as branches of the vine, inseparable from it. Stressing the idea of the Church as a fellowship, he spoke also of the Church as a medium of redemption, whereby God was continually creating a New Israel as the channel of His saving grace; and further of the Church as a discipline whereby all became subservient to one Lord and one Spirit. He referred to the many mighty victories which had been won against tremendous odds by the Christian Church, and mentioned the story of the early follower of Christ, who going down into the amphitheatre to meet his death for his loyalty to his Lord and Master, was jeered at by a Roman spectator, who cried out to him, 'Where is your Carpenter now?' His answer was simple but direct: 'He is making a coffin for your Emperor.' The great Roman Empire tottered and fell, whilst the Church went on its conquering way. The preacher pleaded for a greater loyalty to the Church, which in the providence of God was still the one great hope of this toiling and sinning world.

Rev. Dr. A. L. Agnew gave an exposition of the principles of Presbyterian Church order, and the usual questions to the new minister and congregation were put by the Moderator. In the course of the statement made by the new minister, he said: 'In perfect freedom I embrace in faith the eternal verities of the Christian religion. These verities I shall preach, and shall pray for the grace to practice in my private as in my public life. I, with you, call myself a Christian, since we pray to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, and strive to order our lives according to His pattern. This then is the kernel of my faith. It is to this ministry that, by the grace of God, I am ordained, and my earnest prayer is that I may be found worthy of this high calling in Jesus Christ, to run with patience the race that is set before me, looking unto Him who is the author and perfector of my faith.'

The Ordination prayer was offered by the Rev. H. Hall, and the charge to the minister and congregation was given by the Rev. G. V. Crook. The newly-ordained minister closed the service with prayer. In the absence of the organist of the church, who was unable to be present owing to the death of her brother, Mrs. Moore of Ballyclare kindly presided at the organ.

Tea was then served in the school, after which the following toasts were honoured: 'The King,' proposed by the Moderator; 'The New Minister,' proposed by the Rev. G. V. Crook, to which the Rev. W. Holden responded, saying that having now settled at Clough, he hoped that never again would he need to seek another charge. The toast to the visitors from other Churches was proposed by the Rev. R. W. Wilde, and responded to by the Rev. J. G. Pooler, rector of Seaforde, and also by the Rev. R. J. Boggs, Presbyterian Minister of Clough and Seaforde. The concludiog toast was to the ladies of the church, proposed by the Rev. Dr. Agnew; and the proceedings closed with the singing of the National Anthem.

BALLYCLARE INSTALLATION.

The new minister of the Old Presbyterian congregation, Ballyclare, Rev. W. Howard Payne, was installed on Thursday evening, July 4th, in the presence of a large congregation.

The Service of installation was presided over by the Moderator of Antrim Presbytery, Rev. W. H. Townley Tilson, M.A., who conducted the introductory devotions.

Rev. R. W. Wilde, M.A., preached the sermon, based on the words of the 55th chapter of Isaiah—"Comfort" "seek" and "forsake."

The present, he remarked, was one of the most momentous and serious in all our national story. Their new minister would commence his ministry in that church in a time of unprecedented strain, when not even the wisest of them could see for a single day ahead, and all the future was dark and uncertain in the extreme.

The Rev. Dr. A. L. Agnew having explained Presbyterian Order and Church Government, the Moderator put the pre-

scribed questions to the candidate and the congregation.

The installation prayer was offered by Rev. John Begg, while the charge to the new minister and the congregation was given by Rev. G. V. Crook.

The service was concluded with the Benetion, pronounced by the newly-installed minister.

Subsequently tea was provided for a large company in the Victoria Hall, Mill Road.

Grace was pronounced by the Rev. W. Howard Payne and the National Anthem was sung.

During the tea the following toasts were honoured:—"The King," proposed by the Moderator of the Antrim Presbytery, Rev. W. H. Townley Tilson, M.A.; "The Governor of Northern Ireland," by the Right Rev. J. Glynne Davies, Moderator of the Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Church of Ireland; "The Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Church of Ireland," by the Rev. R. W. Wilde, M.A., B.Sc.; "The newly-installed Minister," by Rev. John Begg, to which Mr. Payne suitably replied; "Our Guests," by the Rev. C. J. Montgomery, M.A., responded to by the Rev. W. J. Guy Macbeth, B.A., minister of the local Presbyterian Church; and "The Ladies of the Congregation," by the new minister.

Following this a short musical programme, provided as usual by Mrs. Mooer, the popular organist of the church, was much enjoyed, and the singing of the National Anthem brought to a close a memorable and happy event in the history of the Old Meeting House.

— The Unitarian and — Free Christian Men's League.

BELFAST CHAPTER

—:o:—

Meets as announced October to May, inclusive.

OBJECTS (inter alia).

To encourage laymen to take a more active part in the work of the Churches.

To form a bond of union and closer co-operation between the members of the various congregations.

The Committee invite those who are not already members to join. The minimum subscription is 1/-, and further particulars may be obtained from:—
MR. FRANK A. ROBINSON,
"Kenron,"
Holywood,
Co. Down.

MEN'S LEAGUE.

The momthly meeting of the Belfast Chapter was held on Friday, 28 h June, in the York Street Hall, the Rev. A. L. Agnew, B.A., D.D., president, in the chair.

Mr. J. G. Blair gave an address, his subject being, "The Practical Application of Unitarianism to Every-day Life." The speaker treated his audience to an unusual point of view; at least so it appeared from the discussion which followed. as he was met with opposition from all those taking part in the discussion. It is, of course, not easy in a report of this kind to give an adequate impression of Mr. Blair's paper, but his opinion may be given in the words "It depends on me," *the individual* or "Be thou true unto thyself," and it shall follow as the night the day thou cans't not be false to any man. But, of course, a man cannot live unto himself alone.

Whether one agreed with Mr. Blair or not he was more than repaid for his attendance by the speaker's vigour and keenness and the able way in which he dealt with the opposition.

The visit to Newry and Warrenpoint, on the kind invitation of the Rev. J. McCleery, B.A., S.T.M., *has been fixed for Saturday, September 7th.* Further details will be given later.

We were again treated most hospitably by the President and his helpers.

According to the Order from the Government, it will not now be possible to send this magazine from private addresses in Northern Ireland, but, where this is desired, copies can be sent either from The Depository, 35 Rosemary Street, Belfast, or Mr. Edward Hodgett, Printer, Newry.

S. & J. HEWITT

Carpenters, Builders and General House Repairers,

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REVIEWS.

Pictures in the Fire. Ten Minute Talks to Girls and Boys. By Mary Francis, L.L.A. Price 1/-. The Lindsey Press.

Miss Mary Francis was a schoolmistress in one of the largest schools in the Metropolitan area and brings to her work a wide experience in teaching. She is an acceptable lay-preacher in many churches and is well-known in the Sunday - School world. Two previous books from her pen, are "Teacher Training," "The Story of Jesus as told to children."

Sitting in front of a glowing fire pictures appear of people, birds, beasts and all sorts of things; from that to "building castles in the air." Vision in the Bible of a new Jerusalem. After Great Fire of London Sir Christopher Wren planned for a cleaner, wider, more habitable city, but people in their hurry wasted much of his plan. Florence Nightingale saw visions, out of which hospital and nursing systems have grown.

Story of Jeremiah is told in fresh and interesting form. His enemies lowered him into a dungeon to let him die of starvation. A palace servant obtained permission from the king and with "cords" and "clouts" effected his rescue. The clouts were to be put under the prophet's armpits to prevent the cords from cutting his flesh as he was being hauled up.

The torch may be well-known to us in the black-out. In Scotland when there were invasions, the Highlanders were summoned to defend their land by a lighted torch like a fiery cross passed on by swift rumours from tribe to tribe. English mountains such as Cawsand Beacon, Dunkarry Beacon had their names from the huge fires kindled on them to pass the signal from one end of the country to the other. Jesus has been called "Light of the World." He illuminated peoples' difficulties and dispelled the gloom caused by their mistakes and misunderstandings.

"Thank you." Carry the thought back and back,
"Back of the loaf is the snowy flour,
And back of the flour is the mill,
And back of the mill is the wheat and the shower
And the sun and the Father's will."

Brief selections which may give an idea of the scope of the book which might prove useful to Sunday-school teachers.—ULLIN.

—:o:—

"The Church of the Divine Unity," Newcastle-upon-Tyne. Souvenir of the opening and Dedication services, Jan. 20th and 21st, 1940.

This will be of very special interest to those who know the Rev. Herbert Barnes personally, as well as to those who want to learn about the new type of church architecture — ("perpendicular," we think it is called)—which marks the period on which we are entering. It contains full details of what was to be seen and heard on the occasion of the opening as well as pictures of the exteriors and interiors of the old and new buildings, and stages in the building. There is a concise history of the church. The first minister was Dr. Richard Gilpin, in the days of Charles II, clergyman and doctor of physic, and in 1662 he refused to subscribe under the terms of the Act of Uniformity, on the grounds that it was "rigorous and unreasonable" and he retired to Carlisle. King and Council tried to retain his services, by offering him the Bishopric of Carlisle; but he threw in his lot with the Ejected 2,000 ministers which was in contrast to the comfortable and secure position he might have chosen.

The book is well filled with pictures; the church filled and empty; the Lord Mayor and Corporation in their robes leaving the church; the procession towards opening showing the clergy in their gowns. There are portraits of Rev. Herbert Barnes, Dr. Alfred Hall, Rev. Mortimer Rowe, J. R. Liddell, Esq., Hon. Building Inspector; the fine outer and inner vestibules; the library and one of the school-rooms; the programmes of opening service and public meeting with sermon and addresses are recorded. Throughout the whole of the building the modern touch reveals itself. Of the total cost of £30,000 £8,000 has still to be raised.

One item of interest is that of "Recovery of Income Tax on Charitable Subscriptions and Donations," whereby a donor paying tax at full rate on some portion of his income, without extra cost to himself is able to give an increased amount; for example, a yearly fixed cash subscription of £5 (with income tax at 7/6 in the £) will produce £8 yearly to the charity. A table shows how 10/- produces 16/-; £2 2s, £3 7s 2d; £100, £160. (Form R 185) official certificate, obtainable from Treasurer, is enclosed in book. As it is, we are taxed on amounts given to charities; but, this taxation might be made to accrue to the charity. Sur-tax payers further benefit under this scheme, as they are not required to pay sur-tax on the amount. This is valuable information, in the raising of endowments and building funds.

BEAUTY.

The sun is sinking Westward,
And black rooks homeward fly,
Before the sun's disk vanishes,
All verdant glows the sky.

The clouds reflect a hundred shades
Of purple, gold and red,
Aqua-marine the background fades
O'er which these gleams are shed.

The old green fields of Heaven display
The twilight's glory bright,
As slowly daylight ebbs away,
And stars their lanterns light.

The moonbeams, clear as crystal,
In shower of radiance fall:
They crown the night with silver light,
Then silence reigns o'er all.

Through the whole Universe, my God,
Thy beauty is displayed,
And day and night, in shade and light,
Decks all that Thou hast made.

F. H. ALDHOUSE.

Rectory, Oldtown, Co. Dublin.

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WOMEN'S LEAGUE.

The Manse, Comber.

Dear Editor,

I should be very glad if relatives of our men who are in England would let me have the present addresses of the men, as there are many parcels to be re-directed. There have been no letters from abroad this month.

Many of the men arrived back from Dunkirk with nothing and were glad of the parcels of socks and necessities.

The subscriptions this month are pleasant to record. The Misses Rosemary and Florence Ferguson, Comber, have sent half their prize, won for handicraft in the Young Farmers' Union Club competitions, 10/-; and Miss Bessie Sloan, Comber, has contributed from her earnings a parcel containing cigarettes, handkerchiefs, razor-blades—a splendid contribution from a young person; Mrs. McMurray, First Church, 2/6; Mrs. R. Ferguson, Comber, 2/6. A large parcel of socks was received from Larne W.L., and a gift of socks from Mrs. Davies, Larne.

Pull-overs, scarves and helmets will be needed for the Autumn and Winter. Skull protection guards were also received from Larne.

Many thanks to these contributors and to the knitters of splendid pull-overs.

EDITH DAVIES, Hon.
Fellowship Sec.

Comber Women's League—This Branch has started classes on Monday nights for instruction in what to do in case of air raids, with demonstrations of practical first aid. The classes are open to men and women over 16 years of age.

* * *

Correspondence—Letter from W. H. McC. held over until next issue.

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